May/June, 1981

Lasca Leaves

Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens

Hall of Environmental Education Dedicated

SOUNDS OF A FIESTA reverberated through the new Hall of Environmental Education at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum during the building dedication ceremony on the evening of March 11. Members of the Board of Governors, the Board of Trustees, and county officials joined with the Arboretum staff in honoring the major donors whose contributions made construction of the new building possible.

The early California-style dinner hosted by Lawry's California Center was highlighted with the presentation of the building to 1st District Supervisor Peter Schabarum. He accepted the new Hall on behalf of the people of Los Angeles County and in turn presented a plaque to James Curry, California Arboretum Foundation president.

Floral centerpieces for each table were designed and crafted by the Floralia Guild and the Arboretum District of California Garden Clubs. Other display tables were set up by participating plant societies including the San Gabriel Valley Branch of the American Begonia Society, the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, the Arboretum District of

James Curry (left), California Arboretum Foundation president, accepts a plaque commemorating the foundation's donation of the Hall of Environmental Education from First District Supervisor Peter Schabarum.

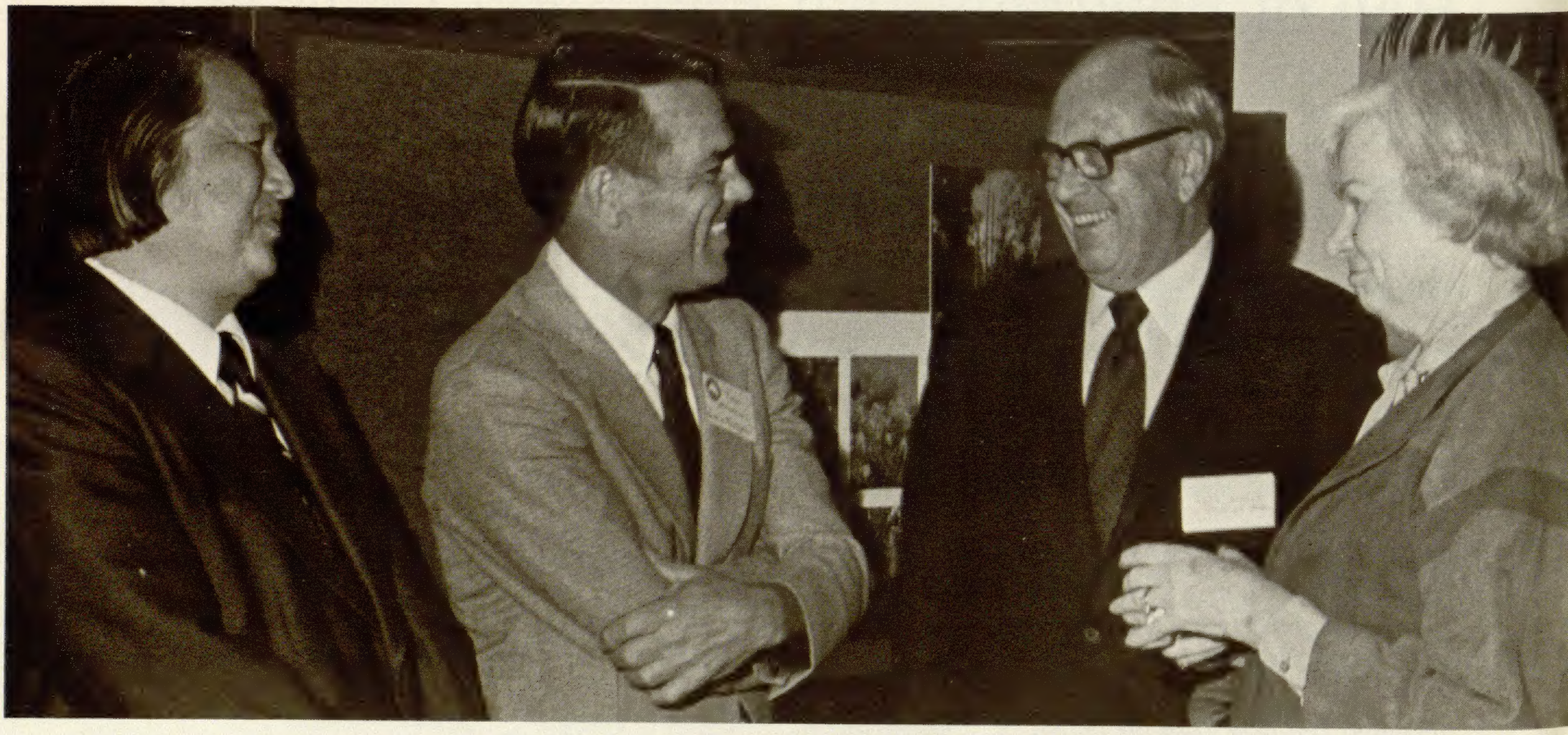
Thomas N. Fuelling, Arboretum trustee and dedication chairman, officiated at the ceremony.

California Garden Clubs, the San Gabriel Branch of the Cymbidium Society of America, the Epiphyllum Society of America, and the Southern California Unit, Herb Society of America.

More displays were done by the Pacific Rose Society, the San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists, the Santa Anita Bonsai Society, the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society, the Temple City Camellia Society, and the Southern California Camellia Society.

A pictorial history of the Arboretum from the time it was established in 1947 up to the present was a feature for the evening. Early photographs showing lanky, newly planted trees and the foundations of buildings that have since become familiar parts of the Arboretum landscape prompted loyal advocates of the Arboretum to comment proudly on how things have progressed in the past 34 years.

The transformation of an overgrown cattle ranch into one of the leading public botanic gardens in the United States would not have been possible without the continuing support of the people and organizations represented at the dedication ceremony.



ABOVE *Department director, Francis Ching (left), and First District Supervisor Peter Schabarum chat with Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Smeby. Mr. Smeby is with the BankAmerica Foundation.*

RIGHT *Floral centerpieces decorated tables for the Mexican-style dinner.*

RIGHT *Dr. Gerald Hassler (left), Dr. Mildred Mathias, and John Anson Ford, former county supervisor, were some of the dignitaries on hand to celebrate another milestone in Arboretum development.*

Photos by William Aplin

LEFT *Nancy (Mrs. James) Anderson, president of Las Voluntarias y Los Ayudantes, represented that organization during formal dedication of the new Hall of Environmental Education.*

ABOVE *Trustees Mr. and Mrs. Leland Larson were among the 300 guests at the dedication ceremony March 11. Ruth Mary Larson is a past president of the California Arboretum Foundation.*

BELOW *Richard Ray (left), chairman of CAF development program during the fund raising campaign, shares visions of the Arboretum's future with John Anson Ford. Mr. Ford was county supervisor for the First District when the Arboretum was established in 1948.*

Trustees Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Moore sample the food. Mitzi Moore is a past president of Las Voluntarias y Los Ayudantes.

(LASCA continues after page 32)

Mrs. Moto Nagaoka (center) holds one of the bread flower arrangements she made for the Japanese cultural festival at South Coast Botanic Garden Feb. 28 and March 1. Guests at a preview reception included (from left) Second District Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, Mrs. Hahn, Fourth District Supervisor Deane Dana, Kay Iizuka, and Mrs. Dana.

JAPANESE FAIR PREVIEW RECEPTION

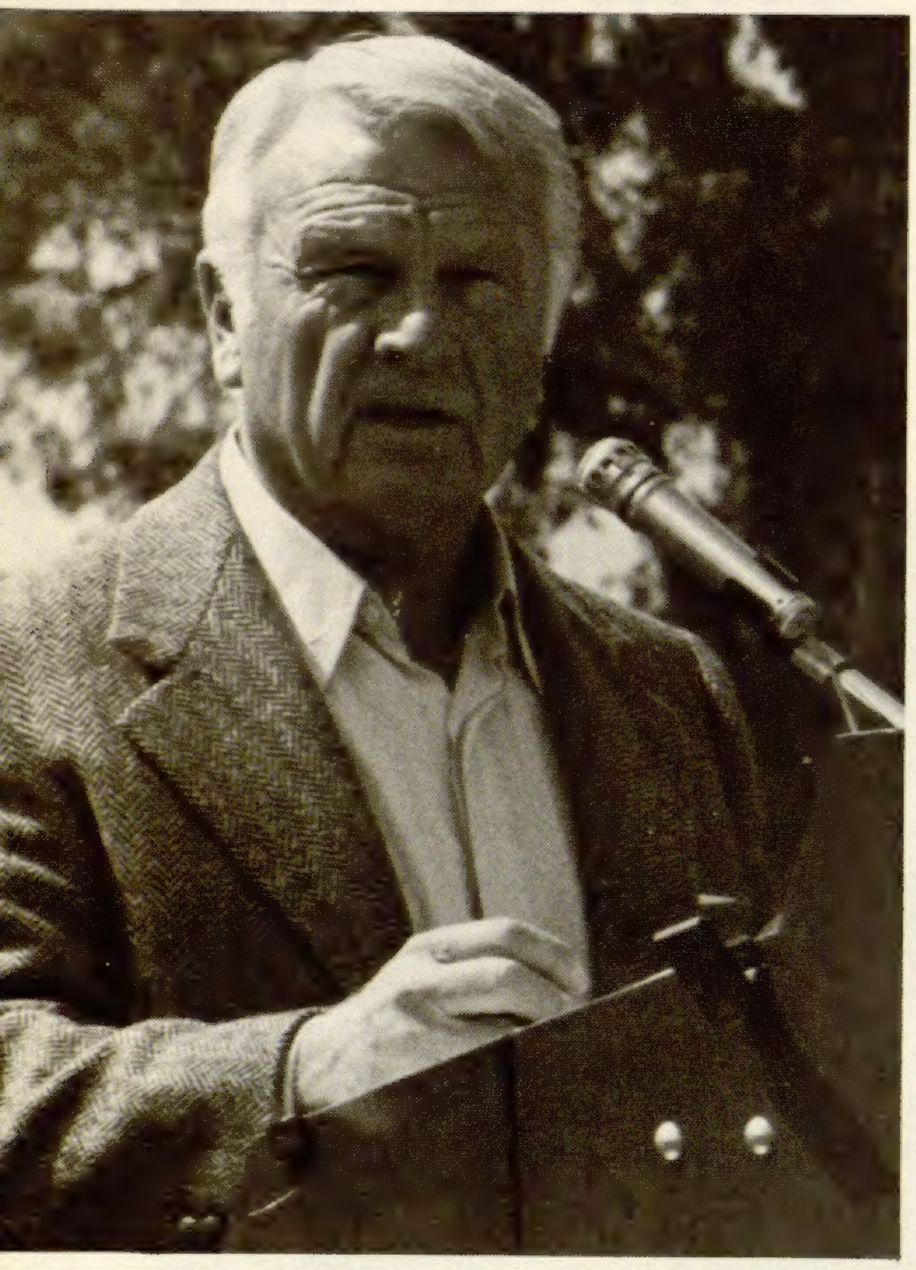
THE Japanese cultural festival at South Coast Botanic Garden opened with a special preview reception on the evening of Feb. 27. More than 200 people viewed the exhibits and heard brief comments from 4th District Supervisor Deane Dana, 2nd District Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, and Mrs. Richard Peters, president of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation.

Chairperson for the event was Mrs. Hirofumi Uyesugi who created the 300 kimekomi dolls displayed during the two-day festival held over the weekend of Feb. 28 and March 1.

Kay Iizuka, a member of the Board of Governors for the Department coordinated the festival which included a tea ceremony and the exhibit and demonstration of several other Japanese art forms.

(Continued on page 8)

CAEER Fair



EDDIE ALBERT, actor and conservationist, warned listeners at the first Southern California Cooperative Action Environmental Education Resources Fair March 14 that Americans risk losing their country if they continue to abuse the land. He cited many examples of ancient nations which followed the path of exploitation of the land, deforestation, loss of topsoil on to the ultimate abandonment of the land and final collapse of the entire civilization. The desertification of America is following the same disastrous route, Mr. Albert said, quoting recent U.S. Soil Conservation Service reports.

"Each day we are losing topsoil equivalent to thirty 100-acre farms down the river to erosion," he said, "and when the soil goes, we go."

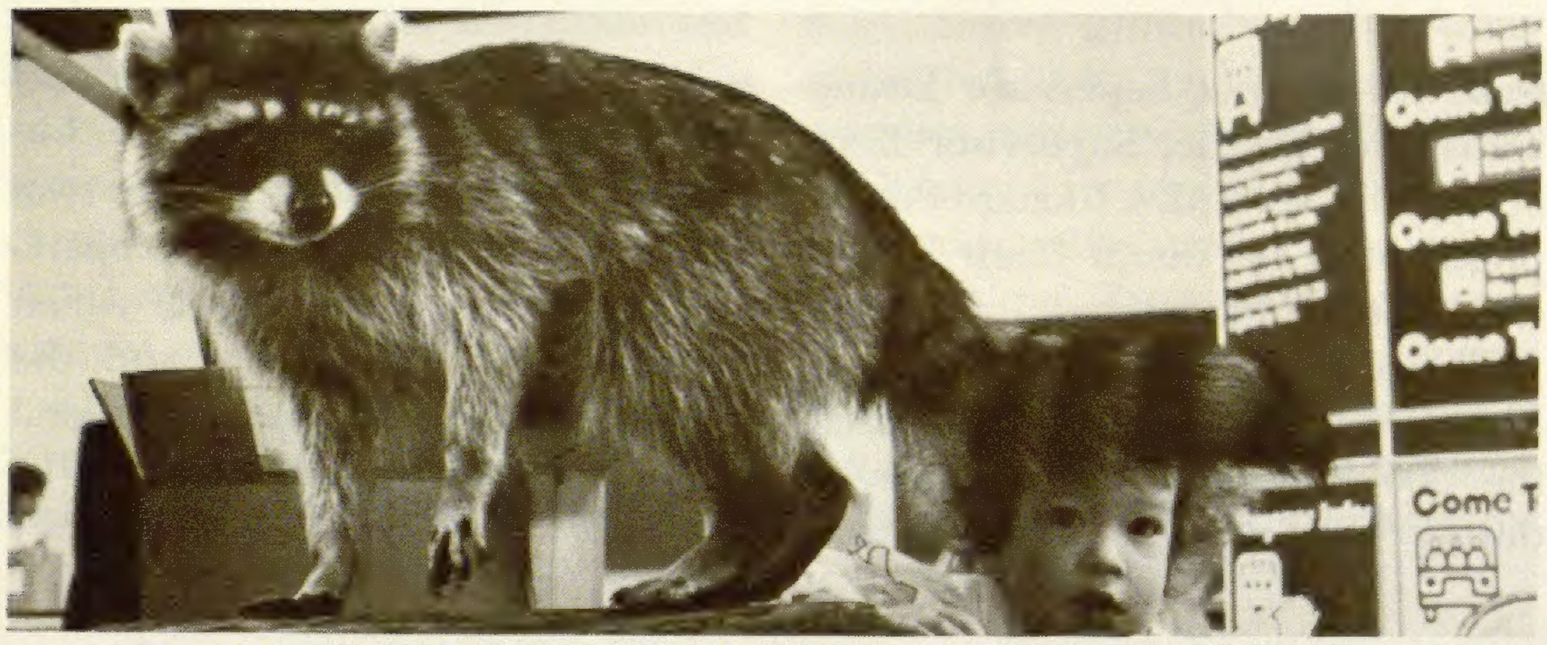
Mr. Albert, who has converted much of the area around his Pacific Palisades home into vegetable gardens and orchards, called on his audience of teachers and other members of the community who work with youngsters to halt the process by encouraging young people to plant trees.

"Plant trees! Billions of trees! We have a choice. We can stand off and let history repeat itself and watch the death of our hard-earned country, or we can pull ourselves together. We have the know-how, the technology."

To learn how to motivate the next generation to use that technology, fairgoers dispersed among exhibits, demonstrations, and workshops at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

The exhibits stressing protection and wise utilization of America's resources were sponsored by 42 organizations as diverse as Jet Propulsion Laboratory and American Cetacean Society. Four separate series of workshops operated in other buildings at the Arboretum giving participants the opportunity to learn new facts and revised strategies for presenting them to students.

The Twelfth Night Repertory Company made recycling and conservation entertaining during two performances of "The Great American Wild Waste Show" Saturday afternoon. Songs, dances, humor, and mime by the company illustrated the environmental Four R's —reduce solid waste, reuse whatever materials possible, recycle resources, and recover energy. The vaudeville-style show was funded by the California State Solid Waste Management Board.



Action

Photos by Judith L. Nagby

Japanese Cultural Festival

Kay Iizuka, Hiroko (Mrs. Hirofumi) Uyesugi, and Cindy (Mrs. Richard) Peters, president of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation, examine one of the exhibits at the Japanese fair.

A kimekoni doll captures the attention of Jean (Mrs. Roy) Ito.

CALENDAR

MAY, JUNE, JULY 1981

LOS ANGELES STATE AND COUNTY ARBORETUM, Arcadia

MAY 17 — 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Epiphyllum Show
Epiphyllum Society**
MAY 23, 24, 25 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bonsai Show
Santa Anita Bonsai Society**
MAY 30, 31 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Satsuki & Azalea Show
Valley Satsuki & Azalea Society**
JUNE 13, 14 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Daylily Show
Southern California Hemerocallis and Amaryllis Society**
JUNE 20, 21 — Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bromeliad Show
Southern California Bromeliad Council**
JUNE 27, 28 — Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Gladiolus Show
Southern California Gladiolus Society**
JULY 3, 4, 5 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cactus & Succulent Show
Cactus & Succulentt Society of America**
JULY 11, 12 — Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Begonia Show
American Begonia Society**
JULY 18, 19 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fern Show
Los Angeles International Fern Society**
JULY 25, 26 — Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Miniature Rose Show
Pacific Rose Society**
*Sponsored by California Arboretum Foundation
**Cosponsored by California Arboretum Foundation

DESCANSO GARDENS, La Canada

MAY 2, 3 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bonsai Show
Descanso Bonsai Society**
MAY 14 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Paseo por Descanso, guided walk of Garden and luncheon on main lawn*
*Sponsored by Descanso Gardens Guild
**Cosponsored by Descanso Gardens Guild

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN, Palos Verdes Peninsula

MAY 16, 17 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fiesta de Flores
Plant Sale*
MAY 23, 24 — Saturday 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Rose Show
South Coast Rose Society**
MAY 30, 31 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Flower Show
Costa Verde District**
JUNE 7 — 2 p.m.
Talk on epiphyllum culture*
JUNE 13, 14 — Sat. noon to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cactus and Succulent Show
South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society**
JUNE 27, 28 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Rose Sale
Greater Los Angeles Rose Society**
JULY 17, 18, 19 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fuchsia Show
South Coast Fuchsia Society**
*Sponsored by South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation
**Cosponsored by South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation